"Draugas" Concert And Dance Feb. 10th

Was An Overwhelming Success

1600 PEOPLE JAM ST. AGNES' AUDITORIUM TO WITNESS COLORFUL CONCERT AT BIGGEST HIT OF THE SEASON.

The "Draugas" annual Concert and Dance held at St. Agnes' Auditorium, Sunday, Feb. 10th turned out to be a outstanding success. The occasion considered the big- gest hit of the season among Chicago's Lithuanian social gatherings—drew well over 1600 people from Illinois, Indiana and Wisconsin to witness a colorful concert and dance to the tunes of a top grade orchestra.

OPERETTA

Perhaps the most enjoyable portion of the evening came from the masterly pre- sentation of the colorful musical comedy "The Battled Bride" (Swiekm Ligos Nej- kalbais). The roles were very deftly played by Genevieve Giedraitis (as AGUTS), Anthony Kaminiskas (as JO- NUKAS), Bruno Bruknis-Brooks (as JOKUBAS) and Kazys Ve Sota (as SIMAS). The operetta was directed by Genevieve Giedraitis and the accompaniment was fur- nished by the gifted pianist John Byanskas.

CONCERT

The second portion of the program was strictly musical, featuring the St. Casi-mir's Academy All Girl Orches- tra (directed by Guy Coskey) and dance numbers by the well-known Ukrainian Chorus (directed by George Ewanoke) talen- ted violinist Mary Balanda, songs by Genevieve Griedai- tis, Anthony and Edward Giedraitis. The piano accom- paniment for the singers was furnished by John Byanskas and the talented young pianist Genevieve Aleksunus.

The music for the dance was furnished by the popular maestro Bob Phillips and his Orchestra. Young and old had a real good time swinging and swaying to captivating tunes and vocals there, too.

The concert and dance was arranged as a part of this celebration commemorating the 30th anniversary of "Draugas" as a daily, in the words of those who were present Sunday, it sure was a "whopper".

"The grand success of the whole affair is a fitting tribute to the co- ordination and smooth co- operation between artists, fellow workers, the management and the splendid, enthusi- astic response of the general public."

WE THANK YOU!

McCoskey Copes With The Housing Problem

Detroit, Mich. — Barney McCoskey, brilliant Lithua- nian major leaguer with the Detroit Tigers, just home from the navy, sure is doing his share to help relieve the housing shortage.

At present, in his Dear- born Hills home, Barney is sheltering his Dad, his brother Al and the latter's wife, D. Wakefield another star of the Tigers' rostrum, moved into about a month ago, and now Ned McQuilla, St. Louis' brown's shortstop has made himself comfortable there.

Barney and Dick will make for Lakeland, Fla. soon, perhaps with Al Newhouse driving them there coming June, still another member will join the Mc- Coskey household. Barney will then marry his fiancée after her graduation from Michigan State.

O. A.

Remember Lithuania's In- pendence Feb. 16th!

CATHOLIC HONOR FOR G-MAN


It Goes to Show

History Really Can Be Romantic

Mary Frances Stedlik

"Oh, there you are Ann with a book again. What's the uninteresting book about this time?"

"I should really ignore you, Therew, when you come in here the first thing in the morning insulting me, why, I don't become angry with you is beyond my understand- ing. I want you to know this is a very interesting book."

"Oh, you said that before and I found them most bo- ring. One worse than the other! Reading those historic books isn't for me. Why, I like thrills, action, and romance. Tell me just what are you reading?"

"It's a book about 'Lithua- nia'. You know the country, your mom and dad came from, I saw it at your home and asked your mother if I could borrow it. She gladly.commented so here I am."
COMMENTARIES

One year ago, we wrote an article on the occasion of the 27th anniversary of the Declaration of Lithuanian Independence that evoked considerable criticism from some quarters for its pessimistic tone. In it, we had written, in effect, that "...we may as well stop crying our heads out with Jabe hopes; Lithuania will not be free and independent when this war ends in victory for the Allies." We were told that such a blunt opinion on Lithuania's chances for regaining her freedom was a disservice to her cause. We were told that the best policy to follow was to loudly and uncompro misingly take it for granted that Lithuania's reconstitution as a free and independent republic was all but an accomplished fact, and that we should not admit any other possibility. Didn't we remember that President Roosevelt had stated that Lithuania's independence was not lost, but only temporarily set aside? Hadn't we read the Atlantic Charter? Had we so soon forgotten the recommendations of the U.S. State Department that the Soviet occupation of Lithuania would not be recognized and that the Lithuanian Minister and Consul would continue to be recognized? When we pointed out the ominous silence concerning Lithuania at the Yalta Conference, we were reassured. "Ah, but wait till the war ends! You will see how quickly the other Allied governments will crack down on Soviet Russia and force her to leave Lithuania."

Our purpose, of course, was not pessimism for its own gloomy sake. Our purpose was to try to convince American Lithuanians that it was the time for them to desist from the somewhat day-dreaming in which they were indulging and realize once and for all that no gallant knight was going to ride forth from the White House or the State Department to free Lithuania from the clutches of the Red Dragon. The cause of Lithuania's freedom was in no one else's hands but our very own. If each of us individually had not worked wholeheartedly for it, then neither President Roosevelt, the State Department, the A.T., the Missaj, or any other agency or individual was going to do the work for us.

We would be the happiest individual in the world today if we had been proven wrong, and if our gloomy prophecy of a year ago were a fact today. Unfortunately, though the war in Europe ended last May, and World War II ended last August, the land of our fathers today has become a new Golgota of suffering and agony that makes anything else she has suffered throughout the centuries pale into insignificance.

It did not take any mysterious sources of information or any special talent as an analyst of international affairs to foresee this victory for the forces of democracy and freedom would bring neither democracy nor freedom to Lithuania. Because of her consistent record for treachery in the past, any person with the average child's intelligence could see that Soviet Russia's fervent and touching verbal professions of love for truth, justice and right were motivated by her need for our military aid and nothing else. Her fighting in our common cause against Hitler was a mere maneuver, a convenience and coincidence and had nothing to do with sincere abhorrence of oppression and totalitarianism. Only the most naive person would even consider that Soviet Russia's eleventh hour entry into our war had the slightest effect on the victory which had already been won by our American forces alone.

Though Soviet Russia had had her back against the wall and had seen her defeat staring her in the face until we gave her guns, ammunition and supplies to enable her to turn the Nazi back — the experience did not teach her a single lesson, and she emerged from that brief but certain disaster more ruthless, arrogant, and treacherous than ever before.

The Red Fascists of Moscow, who so glibly mouth beautiful phrases about "liberation", "freedom", "democracy", etc. while the rest of the world is fighting for these things, has had the slightest intention of yielding any territory which they had grabbed from others. Stalin and Hitler divided Poland between them. The Brown Fascist is gone, but the Red Fascist still has not given up, one foot of Polish territory. He has taken half of it outright, and has installed a puppet government to rule the other half for him. Stalin seized the Baltic States with the permission of Hitler. By doing so, he placed the infamous stamp of Nazi approval on an act of outright international gangsterism. By doing so, he violated every pledge and treaty he had made with these countries. Hitler is today an infamous memory, but Stalin has not yielded one foot of his lost in the Baltic States. And the reign of terror that has been inaugurated in these countries by the Red Fascist invaders is marked by an unending succession of crimes that know no parallel in world history.

(Continued on page 4)

Talking It Over

There Are No Enemy Children...

WE did not fight a war against the Japanese but against the heads of doddl ing German infants that soldiers fired their rifles. They did not throw grenades into the dark eyes of Italian bambinos. No Marine aimed his flamethrower at the smiling face of a chubby Jap baby. Yet it is these children who were being killed by the war.

This winter Europe and the Orient starve. Every news report, every letter from abroad, every returning soldier, sailor, and marine tells the same story: "The children whom we fought to free, the children for whom our men died to build a better world are being killed by the aftermath of war."

You read this article in good shape. If you were in Europe, the walls of this very room would lie about your feet, a hopeless ruble of broken brick, plaster, and charred wood. Your child in a thin shirt would shiver ceaselessly in the damp and cold. His cheeks would hollow, the sparkle dim from his eyes, his features shrivel, the skin stretched out over the bones of his head. His arms and legs would twist into grotesque, horrible shapes from malnutrition. As he gradually starved his little stomach would swell hugely like a big balloon. Feebly he would whimper, "Give me something to eat! I'm cold and hungry!"

This picture is not overdrawn. It is real. It is as real as the bread that you ate this morning while these children had no breakfast. It is a fact, a fact which will face us in tomorrow's history books along with the account of what we did for these children whose lives depend upon our generosity.

On Christmas Eve an appeal was signed by fifty American Catholic and Protestant leaders. This appeal called upon all "in the name of Jesus Christ — on His birthday" to write to Congressmen and Senators urging the opening of all countries, including Axis countries, to American relief. This appeal asked everyone to sacrifice the equivalent of one meal a week for relief abroad.

Christmas day is gone. Starvation is not. What you can do, do at once, to feed these children. Remember, there are no enemy children.

Died in Service

Sergeant Edward J. Giorgi 29 Y. R. formerly of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church, Brooklyn, who died at the base hospital in Fort Hamilton, N.Y., January 13 from a long illness suffered in service. He is the 8th Catholic priest to die while serving in the I.S. Army during World War II. (NG Photos)
K. OF L CIRCLES

K. OF L DISTRICT CHOIR NOTES:

They're really a loyal and inspiring group of singers that make up the roster of the present K. OF L CHICAGO DISTRICT CHOIR. Week after week they gather at the West Side Hall (2244 W. 23rd Place) and under the capable direction of their Choir Director, LEONARD J. SIMUTIS, Jr., they're progressing quite rapidly with a repertoire of new and seldom heard Lithuanian music.

The Choir at present is preparing for the K. OF L ST. CASIMIR DAY RITES services at ST. MICHAEL'S PARISH church (North Shields) on MARCH 3rd. This will be their first public appearance since the choir was reorganized. They're also planning a presentation of their CONCERT tentatively planned for the latter part of APRIL or EARLY MAY. Likewise an informal appearance is being planned for the choir group to appear on the program during the presentation of BRIGHTON PARK K. OF L COUNCIL's 36 Lithuanian play "PONAS DAUGANORIS" on SUNDAY, FEB. 24th.

Members of the Choir group at present are as follows: ROPLANDS; — Adele Abromavičius, Emily Auknaitis, Stella Brunas, Joanna Butkewich, Stephanie Cibauskis, Helen Gudainskas, Valeris Jakaitis, Emily Kass, Eleanore Kandrias, Anna Mazelis, Felicita Panicbuonas, Helen Shebelais, Zita Walters, Petronella Zakara, AUTOI; — Thoress Chludkis, Caroline Maisiunas, Mrs. Anna Misus, Mrs. Stella Pavis, Anna Radomskis, Philomena Rekašiute, Ruth Simutis, Frances Urnezus, Adele A. Zenkus, TENOIRS; — Casimir J. Boguslavas, Peter Chikeldis, Martin Gutaszaitis, Zita Zienis, Casimir P. Serpetas, James Zaramakovs, BASSES; — Rolapas Balnaius, Edward Kaskauskas, John Kuspus, Ray Maisiunas and Ernie Sutkus (President of the Choir group).

CLASS LARGE OF CANDIDATES FOR THE FOURTH DEGREE

The K. OF L Chicago District RITUAL COMMITTEE reports that an unusually large class of candidates are being prepared for the K. OF L 4th Degree_ORDOR OF ST. CASIMIR — which will be conferred during Communion breakfast (after traditional K. OF L St. Casimir Day rites) on SUNDAY, MARCH 3rd at St. Michael's parish auditorium. The K. OF L SENIORS are presenting SEVEN CANDIDATES, CICERO K. OF L Council 11 — 11 CANDIDATES, NORTH SIDE K. OF L Council 5 — 4 CANDIDATES; BRIGHTON PARK K. OF L Council 36 — 3 CANDIDATES; MARQUETTE PARK K. OF L Council 112 — 3 CANDIDATES; and ONE from the TOWN OF LAKE K. OF L Council 13.

K. OF L BUILDING COMMITTEE TO MEET IN IMPORTANT SESSION

WEDNESDAY evening, FEBRUARY 20th, at the residence of Mr. JOHN A. KASS, 4216 Archer Ave., the joint committees of the Chicago District organization and the K. OF L SENIORS will meet to discuss Z. important plans and projects for the future home of K. OF L activities. All committee members are urged to be present.

What's Cookin'?

By John A. Skolly

"You should never wear your best trousers when you go out to fight for freedom and truth."

There's another advantage in being poor — a doctor will cure you sooner.

I knew a fellow that was so madly in love that he followed his girl around like a dot after an exclamation mark.

Told the wife, "what's the idea of kissing the iceman when we owe the butcher."

If eating carrots helps for good vision, I believe it never saw a rabbit wearing glasses.

How smart are you? If a bunch of fish is a SCHOOL, a group of sheep is a FLOCK, mules an elephant is a HERD, what's a pack of CAMEL? The answer... 

How Do We Fare?

Here's the Record

How does the average citizen fare under our American system, as compared with the totalitarian, Government-run — everything system? Before the war, combined life insurance and bank savings in the U.S. per capita $1,419, in Germany, $219; in Japan, $114; in Italy, $99.

For every million population, Americans owned 226,086 automobiles; Germans owned 24,080; Itailians, 11,328; Japanese, 2,582.

In Russia — only Government insurance; as to savings bank deposits, autos owned — no figures. 

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Outstanding Grid Star of 1945

Felix A. Blanchard, Jr., a Catholic and famed grid star of West Point, accepts from Wilfred Woitrich the Heisman Memorial Trophy Award, presented in recognition of his choice by sports writers and sports broadcasters of America as the outstanding college football player of 1945. The trophy is a beautiful statuette of a football player in action. (ESPN Photo)

A Book Review

F. O. You're Sure To Be Gay-Hearted

After Reading This Book

By LUCY VALNIKA

If you are feeling like a super-dehydrated prune these days; if you are depressed because you knew only ninety-nine of the hundred questions in your chemistry exam - treat yourself to a book that will send your spirits soaring in practically no time at all. The book is a treasury of humor called "With a Merry Heart," containing works of your favorite Catholic authors.

Professor Phelan, who edited and compiled this gem of a book, explains in his introduction, that humorists, because they know the important things of life, can afford to treat trivial things in a playful manner. While poets reach God through the medium of verse, and religious thinkers through the medium of a Redeemer, humorists often reach God by way of Mickey Mouse.

In the fiction and short story section, Doran Hurley writes of the Cardinal's visit to The Old Parish, and how old Aunt Bridget fed him boiled ham, cabbage, and bread pudding, instead of the fancy French dishes her niece, Bessie, had prepared. He must have liked her meals, for when he was about to leave, he kissed her cheek and told her that he reminded him of his Mother.

In another section, Austin O'Malley wonders why the word tongue is feminine in Greek, Latin, Gaelic, Italian, Spanish, French, and German... Here too, Westbrook Pegler wieldes his satiric wit in a selection from T'ain't Right, and Oscar, the first comic soldier of World War II, writes to his Mom in Oscar Reports on K. P. and I. Q. Douglas Woodruff not only treats the Psycho-Analysis of Cows, but also informs his readers that the Chinese presentation of The Merry Widow is titled, "He dead — she glad!"

The poetry in this book is too good to miss. If you are one who thinks poetry is beyond your grasp, be prepared to have a complete change of attitude when you dip into this section — there is enough over which to chuckle for days.

You can obtain With a Merry Heart at the Public Library, or, if you want the perfect present for a birthday day or a sick call, you can buy a copy from a well-known Catholic book shop in the loop.

Joe Norris Leads

In Bowling Classics

Detroit, Mich. — Joe Norris, internationally known top Lithuanian bowling star, is still "mowing 'em down" in his true sweeping form. At the halfway mark in Detroit's three ALL-Star leagues, there were seven men left in the select "200 average" bracket. Among the leaders was Joe Norris, leading the DETROIT TIMES Classic with 205; second in the Michigan Maj or classic with 205, and second in the Greater Detroit classic with 207.

O. A.
Have you heard a gym instructor shout "Heads Up"?

That's a tip-off that the class is tiring, for the first sign of fatigue is a slouched posture, drooping shoulders and sagging chin.

But secretaries, businessmen, students as well as the busy housewives tend to do the same thing. What is worse, over the years, many of us go into a headdown, shoulders-round- position. Soon it takes more effort to maintain good posture than to stoop.

Good posture is a MUST today, for it makes for better appearance. Good-looking clothes are doubly attractive on a well-built, well-poised figure. If you cut a good figure you will feel better and look better.

I'll listen! BUT only to the first six lines.

"You've heard of "BIRUTĖS KALNAS" in Lithuania. Haven't you?"

"Now that I mention it! Yes, in school, but I don't remember because it never interested me."

"Well, listen as I read you this:

"Birutė's Kalnas" is less than a kilometer south of Palanga is known to every Lithuanian as sacred ground associated with the most beloved feminine figure in Lithuanian history and legend, that of the Duchess Birutė.

"It is a hill of about 70 meters high, overgrown with pines. It is, in fact, the only real hill for miles around and from the oldest times was held sacred. Here burned the sacred fire, here died that ended night and day by the "Vaidilutes" — Vestal Virgins, from which the word "vaidilute" — female, birutė towards the middle of the XIV century was a beautiful novice called Birutė. On this hill, or rock as the legend has it, was to be finally consecrated a "Vaidilute", Kestutis, son of the reigning Grand Duke of Lithuania met her, loved her and asked her to be his wife. Birutė refused but Kestutis was not to be talked.

"That's the sixth line: Want me to stop?"

"No goodness, tell me what happened finally."

"That night before, rather, just as the High Priest prepared to throw the sacred ws, Birutė's head thereby vowing her eternal virginity. Kestutis appealed to her to call forth the sacred fire and seizing Birutė, carried her off to be his wife. The horror stricken priest proclaimed that the dire worst would result because of the sacriege, that with their children would end the glory of Lithuania. The prophecy, unfortunately, was amply fulfilled:

their son Vytautas was Lithuania's last great ruler.

After Kestutis' death, Birutė returned to Palanga to die and was buried on the hill near where she bears her name.

She especially loved this hill, and tradition has it, that no matter how deep Birutė gouged into it, there was always a pathway to it's top where today stands a Christian chapel.

"Say, mom never told me such interesting stories about hills and so on! I'll bet there many interesting things to be learned about the land of my forefathers."

"Well, dear, you can't expect people who are in a nice quiet room which is warm and comfortable to realize what it is being lost in the sea during a storm. Can you? Same with the people of Lithuania! They suffer the result of the war, starvation, cold and so much after wars that some left during the times of things they have to endure that people think about and talk about later. It is only natural that a person strives hardships after living and enduring years of insecurity, wars and so on. Therefore, it is up to us to understand and see that there is much beauty in life as well as ugliness!"

"Gee, Ann. I never thought of it that way! Say, why not read that book, starting from the beginning at our club meetings and then maybe we can join the group for the FREE DOM OF LITHUANIA, or whatever they're doing for Lithuania. We can find out! It will be interesting as well as fun."

"Right now, let me give you one cheer for you, another for the good old UNITED STATES, and for our great struggling ancestors, the LITHUANIANS."

"These truths are self-evident..." Said the smouldering, blood-soaked ruins of our mellow dreams about a free and democratic Lithuania after the war was ended. But where do we go from here, after we have sobbed out our hearts at the walling-wall of frustration and anguish for those whom we are so much in the land of our fathers, or scattered throughout the world?

For one thing, we must take realistic stock of the situation. The United States and British governments cannot and will not go to war again to free Lithuania and other enslaved countries. Statements and pronouncements from the White House or State Department of themselves are not going to accomplish that end, either. The cause of Lithuanian's freedom is now in the hands of the American Lithuanian people, to lead, direct and carry on, no matter how long it takes.

The weapons are few, but important: constant and widespread publicity in every possible form; the rallying of national and world opinion to Lithuania's cause; unceasing knocking at the doors — and above all, at the hearts — of the nation's and the world's law-makers; increasing our war relief and moral aid to Lithuanian people, to lead, direct and carry on, no matter how long it takes.

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